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they are not the crimes which were common to him in Africa. So that, in the face of so many unwise gifts forced upon him, there could be, in our opinion, no more salutary measure than to reduce his punishment to the level of his comprehension—for as Judge Baldwin points out, the terrors of jail are not at all convincing to the lower class of negroes. It is suggested (p. 247) that the reason why this punishment has not been provided in the southern states, is that it smacked of slavery. But it is shown that imprisonment is also slavery (and much more so), so that no such scruples ought to obtain.

While the author eulogizes, in the main, the judicial systems of our states, he is not at all prone to pass over their faults. He shows (p. 282) the reason why many of our trial courts contrast so unfavorably with those of England, *i. e.*, that in many states the judges are elected for short terms and at slight recompense, so that the judicial standard is low, whereas in England the term is life-long and the salary high, with corresponding efficiency in the judges. This grave fault in our system accounts for much of the unfortunate adverse criticism of foreigners to our judiciary. The fact that in one state at least (Texas) far less than half of the judgments appealed from, should be affirmed by the Appellate Court, shows need of change in this respect. It would be no easy matter, however, to bring about a change. In the last chapter the attitude of the American people toward the judiciary is discussed.

The two preceding paragraphs will show that the book contains more than a mere description and explanation of the American judiciary. In many other places are discussed live questions which are pertinent to the subject.

Though elementary, not being intended so much for lawyers as for others, it clears up many points which are extremely puzzling to those who are in the first few years of the study of law. Written in a style which reminds one of Bryce's "American Commonwealth," its clearness and coherence, considering the large field covered and the depth of learning shown, are remarkable.

G. S. A.

The Law of Passenger and Freight Elevators. Second edition. By J. A. Webb of the St. Louis Bar. The F. H. Thomas Law Book Co., St. Louis, 1905.

It has been nine years since the first edition of this author's treatise on elevators was published. The second edition is about as badly needed by the profession as the first was. The law of elevators occupies a very small portion of the law, but it is a branch that has taken a prominent place in the last few years and has come to be rather important. The cases have multiplied and the law has become more clearly defined upon their construction, condition and operation. This edition greatly enlarges the first, and the subject is more exhaustively and carefully treated. Citations are inserted in the text. The rights, duties and liabilities of owners and operators relative to passengers, employees, licensees

and trespassers are treated separately and thoroughly. Damages and personal injuries are discussed and the rules governing parties to actions, pleadings and other matters of practice. The work is altogether a complete compendium of the subject and should be valuable to the practitioner.

M. S. W.

Brief Making and The Use of Law Books. By William M. Lile, Henry S. Redfield, Eugene Wambaugh, Alfred Mason and James Wheeler. Edited by Nathan Abbott. West Publishing Co., St. Paul, Minn., 1906. Buckram, pages viii, 472.

This book consists of four parts: Part I, The Brief on Appeal, by Henry S. Redfield, Professor of Law, Columbia University; Part II, How to Use Decisions and Statutes, by Eugene Wambaugh, Professor of Law, Harvard University; Part III, American Law Publications, by Alfred F. Mason, Editor of the American Law School Review; Part IV, How to Find the Law, by James E. Wheeler, of the Yale University Law School. The Appendix contains a list of abbreviations of law publications, alphabetically arranged which is very handy for reference. Dean William M. Lile of the University of Virginia School of Law, wrote the introduction, and his name is probably included among the authors as a compliment to him, because of the great interest that he has not only taken, but has also aroused in others, in the thorough teaching of law students in this most practical part of the subject, the looking up and gathering together of the law upon any particular point.

The need for a book of this nature is very forcefully argued in an article by Alfred Mason in *The American Law School Review*, vol. I, page 294, which seems to have been written as a sort of a forerunner to pave the way for this publication.

When a book is the first of its kind, as this one appears to be, it might be expected that parts of it would be a trifle rough, as for example, one looking through section 80 might be led to the erroneous belief that L. R. A. consisted of only 50 volumes or might skip entirely the "American and English Encyclopedia of Law" which although by no means perfect, is still extremely useful. Of course the first of these impressions might be corrected by referring to page 140 of the text and the second by referring to page 163, but if a student should start to work out as a practical case, one of the examples in section 80, he would not be liable to look up to see if the impressions created by the examples were correct. But by reason of the fact that the authors have previously put so much study and thought upon the particular topics, upon which each wrote, such rough places are exceedingly rare.

We sincerely hope that this book will fulfill its avowed purpose, and be a basis of instruction that will give the student and young practitioner such a working knowledge of the depositories of the law, with such practical suggestions as to the method of collecting the authorities, that he will be more easily able properly to present his case to the court.

S. W. B.